



ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

1195963 - R8 SDMS

Reclamation Research Unit

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ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

JUN 20 2000

MONTANA OFFICE

June 16, 2000

To: Mr. Scott Brown
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

From: Douglas J. Dollhopf *DJ Dollhopf*

Re: Backfill Soil Quality For Residential Soils Removal Action In East Helena During 2000,
Technical Letter From A.K. Erickson, Hydrometrics, Inc. to S. Brown, U.S. EPA, June 8,
2000.

During the 2000 construction season, Hydrometrics, Inc. plans to remove contaminated residential soil from locations in East Helena. Potential backfill soil from property owned by J. Merritt was sampled and submitted to Energy Laboratories for determination of physicochemical characteristics, while determination of lead, arsenic and cadmium were determined in-house (Hydrometrics, Inc.) by XRF.

Absence Of Oversight

The report makes no indication that samples were collected with Agency oversight. If this is the case, then it is **not possible to attest to the validity of the samples that were collected and associated sample analytical data presented in the report.** If assurance is required that this backfill is suitable, then this soil material should be sampled and analyzed again with Agency oversight.

It is recommended that Hydrometrics, Inc. request Agency oversight in the future for sampling tasks.

Backfill Quality

Based on the soil analytical data presented, the **backfill soil is very suitable in all regards** for its intended use. It appears to be the best backfill soil that has been acquired to date.

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